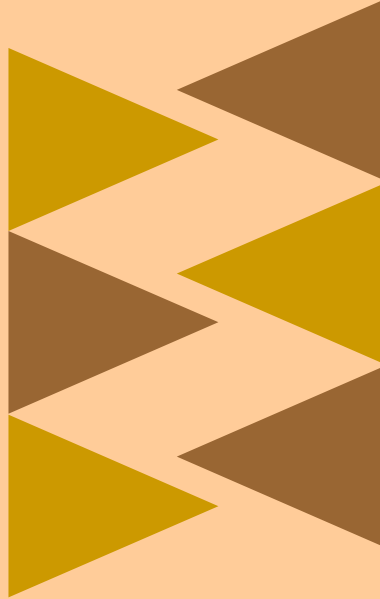


CIRCLE OF GIANTS COMMITTEE



Rebecca Whitaker, Co-chair



David Saucedo, Co-chair

The El Paso Museum of History along with the Circle of Giants committee has embarked on an audacious plan to bring an interactive digital wall to the museum. The "TouchCity Wall" will be the first of its kind in the United States. This easy-to-use, interactive digital wall will provide museum visitors with a touch-sensitive, personal experience of all facets of El Paso and its surrounding history. A similar wall was first introduced at the Museum of Copenhagen a little over a year ago. Since its introduction it has attracted nearly 1,000,000 users. In its first six months visitors viewed more than 2 million images. The digital wall consists of four high-definition plasma screens that allow the user to send unique postcards while at the same time allowing them to upload their own photos. "We anticipate this digital wall to be a focal point for downtown El Paso and serve as a major tourist attraction," said David Saucedo, co-chair of the Circle of Giants committee. The digital wall will help promote, educate and act as a gateway to El Paso's rich, cultural history. The history of the Mission Valley will be the first focus of the digital wall.

The TouchCity Wall will be displayed in the 1st floor gallery currently referred to as the Transportation Gallery. It will conceivably replace the large banner used in the *Awakening Our Giants and Celebrating Our Firsts* gallery. The theme of the Giants gallery and accompanying displays are to honor local GIANTS who have made a significant impact on El Paso's history. The Giants theme was first inspired by Tom Lea's mural *Pass of the North*. The exhibit's first honorees were Coach Don Haskins and members of the Texas Western (UTEP) 1966 NCAA National Championship basketball team. The exhibit that followed was dedicated to Farah Manufacturing which was founded by first generation immigrants and served as a bridge to opportunity for tens of thousands of men and women over the years. This year's exhibit is dedicated to the forty-seven men and one woman who have served in the mayoral capacity. "It is now with great honor that the museum's fourth Giants installation will recognize the Mission Valley and the people it has served over many years," said Rebecca Whitaker, co-chair of the Circle of Giants committee. Both Whitaker and Saucedo believe that the TouchCity Wall will promote the Missions and place the Museum of History among the elite museums in the country.

Committee members: Elias Bonilla, Al Borrego, Paulette Dalke, Veronica Dayoub, Alejandro Del Moral, Jay Desai, Joe Gomez, Jose Gutierrez, Grace Haddox, Stephanie Karr, Hilda Lewels, Anjelica Lewis, Eduardo Lucero, Adair Margo, Mary Jo Melby, Grace Muzoz, Dora Oaxaca, Arlena Palacios, Larry Phifer, Maya Sanchez, Bernie Sargent, Anthony Tonasheski, Liz Uribe-Sinclair, Ray Sanchez, and Tracy Yellen.

HEARTFELT "THANK YOU" TO JOE GOMEZ



The El Paso Museum of History owes a debt of gratitude to community activist and member of the Circle of Giants committee, Joe Gomez. The first three *Awakening Our Giants* exhibits have been very successful thanks to his tireless efforts. Joe's organization of the El Paso's Mayors exhibit is commendable: he was the heart and soul of the project. He arranged for each oral interview of El Paso's living mayors and City Planner Nestor Valencia, he welcomed each participant, set the stage, and then followed through. The museum is very grateful for this. Uniquely designed DVD packages consisting of full and edited interviews will be presented to the El Paso Public Library, UTEP Special Collections, UTEP Oral History, the City of El Paso, and El Paso County Historical Society. Thank you Joe for your dedication to preserving and promoting El Paso heritage!